



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/895,452	06/29/2001	Robert M. Fries	92819.02	3197
22971 7590 09/19/2008 MICROSOFT CORPORATION ONE MICROSOFT WAY REDMOND, WA 98052-6399				
EXAMINER CHOWDHURY, SUMAIYA A				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2623				
NOTIFICATION DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
09/19/2008		ELECTRONIC		

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

roks@microsoft.com  
ntovar@microsoft.com

### Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

09/895,452

**Applicant(s)**

FRIES, ROBERT M.

**Examiner**

SUMAIYA A. CHOWDHURY

**Art Unit**

2623

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 June 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 40, 41, 47-50 and 54-60 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 40, 41, 47-50 and 54-60 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/C)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Response to Arguments***

1. Applicant's arguments filed 6/9/08 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

(a) Applicant argues that Davis does not teach limitations (d) and (f) of claim 1. The Examiner disagrees. Davis teaches transmitting an interactive program guide to the user. An interactive program guide has interactive features which allow the user to interact with in order to obtain additional information or to allow the user to navigate through the program guide. When an interactive portion of a program guide is updated, the pages associated with the interactive portion are also updated. For example, if the user clicks on an updated link in the program guide to obtain more information, the corresponding page which is linked to the updated link is displayed. As such, Davis certainly teaches determining which pages in the carousel contain links and are linked to the new page.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 40-41, 47, 50, 54-57, and 60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Bisdikian (6047317) in view of Davis (5559548).

As for claims 40 and 56, Bisdikian teaches in a source of audiovideo data transmitted to a plurality of subscriber receivers, a system comprising:

(b) means (14) for determining when the new page of content requires reduced latency (pages with high priority require reduced latency – col. 3, line 55 – col. 4, line 5);

(c) means (14) for upon determining the new page requires reduced latency, placing the new page into the carousel more than once – col. 3, lines 63-67;

(h) means (14) for determining when the carousel is ready for transmission – col. 4, lines 43-53, lines 1-5; Fig. 2A;

(j) means (14) for injecting the carousel page onto a transmission medium (transmitter 16) for transmission to the subscriber receivers (12) - col. 4, lines 43-53, lines 1-5;

However, Bisdikian fails to teach:

(a) means for providing a new page of content for an existing carousel of pages;

(d) means for determining which pages in the carousel contain links to the new page;

(e) means for modifying metadata for each page in the carousel containing links to the new page;

(f) means for determining which pages in the carousel are linked to by the new page;

(g) means for modifying metadata for the new page for each page in the carousel that is linked to by the new page;

(i) means for repeating the aforementioned steps until the carousel of pages is determined to be ready for transmission;

(k) means for determining when page information in the carousel is changed;

(l) means for repeating steps (j)-(k) until page information in the carousel is changed;

In an analogous art, Davis teaches:

(a) means for providing a new page (program schedule updates or new promotional information) of content for an existing carousel of pages (col. 6, line 61 - col. 7, line 3, col. 7, lines 7-13, lines 56-60);

(d) means for determining which pages in the carousel contain links to the new page (The interactive program guide updates itself with the updated information – col. 20, lines 43-47);

(e) means for modifying metadata for each page in the carousel containing links to the new page (col. 20, lines 43-47);

(f) means for determining which pages in the carousel are linked to by the new page (col. 20, lines 43-47);

(g) means for modifying metadata for the new page for each page in the carousel that is linked to by the new page (col. 20, lines 43-47);

(i) means for repeating the aforementioned steps until the carousel of pages is determined to be ready for transmission (col. 6, line 61 - col. 7, line 3, col. 7, lines 7-13, lines 56-60);

(k) means for determining when page information in the carousel is changed (col. 6, line 61 - col. 7, line 3, col. 7, lines 7-13, lines 56-60);

(l) means for repeating steps (j)-(k) until page information in the carousel is changed (col. 6, line 61 - col. 7, line 3, col. 7, lines 7-13, lines 56-60);

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify Bisdikian's invention to include the above mentioned limitations, as taught by Davis, for the advantage of updating a program on an as-needed basis, thereby providing the user with an updated program guide in real-time.

As for claim 41, Davis teaches determining when page information in the carousel is changed comprises determining that a new page is provided for the carousel (col. 6, line 61 - col. 7, line 3, col. 7, lines 7-13, lines 56-60);

As for claims 47 and 57, Davis teaches providing the new page of content comprises inserting a new page in place of an old page on a substantially regular basis, thereby providing a slide show effect from a perspective of a viewer that corresponds to one of the subscriber receivers – col. 7, lines 5-22, lines 55-60.

As for claims 50 and 60, Davis teaches wherein the new page is placed in the carousel at spaced apart locations – col. 7, lines 1-3.

As for claim 54, Bisdikian teaches:

Selecting pages of content for transmission – col. 3, line 62 – col. 4, line 5, col. 4, lines 42-53; and

In a substantially recurring pattern, injecting the pages onto a transmission medium for transmission to a receiver, in which one of the pages of content is injected more frequently in the pattern than at least one other page such that a maximum latency for receiving the more frequently injected page (directory frame) is less than a maximum latency for receiving the at least one other page – col. 3, line 62 – col. 4, line 5, col. 4, lines 42-53.

As for claim 55, Bisdikian teaches wherein the page that is transmitted more frequently is transmitted in the recurring pattern at spaced-apart time – Fig. 2A, col. 3, line 62 – col. 4, line 5, col. 4, lines 42-53.

4. Claims 48-49 and 58-59, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bisdikian in view of Tanigawa.

As for claims 48 and 58, Bisdikian fail to teach wherein page metadata for the new page includes an automatic link to itself such that a subscriber receiver reacquires page metadata of the new page when the new page is received.

In particular, Tanigawa teaches wherein page metadata for the new page includes an automatic link to itself such that a subscriber receiver reacquires page metadata of the new page when the new page is received – col. 12, lines 20-43, col. 13, lines 21-63.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify Bisdikian's invention to include the above mentioned limitation, as taught by Tanigawa, in order to automate the process.

As for claims 49 and 59, Bisdikian fails to teach wherein page metadata for the new page includes an automatic link to another page such that when the automatic link is interpreted at a subscriber receiver, the subscriber receiver automatically displays the other page when available at the receiver.

In an analogous art, Tanigawa teaches wherein page metadata for the new page includes an automatic link to another page such that when the automatic link is interpreted at a subscriber receiver, the subscriber receiver automatically displays the other page when available at the receiver – (col. 13, line 64 – col. 14, line 48).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify Bisdikian's invention to include the above mentioned limitation, as taught by Tanigawa, in order to automate the display of the other page.

to interact with in order to obtain additional information or to allow the user to navigate within the program guide. When an interactive portion of a program guide is



updated, the pages associated with the interactive portion are also updated. For example, if the user clicks on an updated link in the program guide to obtain more information, the corresponding page which is linked to the updated link is displayed.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SUMAIYA A. CHOWDHURY whose telephone number is (571)272-8567. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 9-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Miller can be reached on (571) 272-7353. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Chris Kelley/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art  
Unit 2623

Application/Control Number: 09/895,452  
Art Unit: 2623

Page 9

/Sumaiya A Chowdhury/  
Examiner, Art Unit 2623